SC No. 06173/73 20 March 1973

Special Report

COMMUNIST VIOLATIONS OF THE VIETNAM AND LAOS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS*

(This report covers the period from 16 March through 19 March 1973)

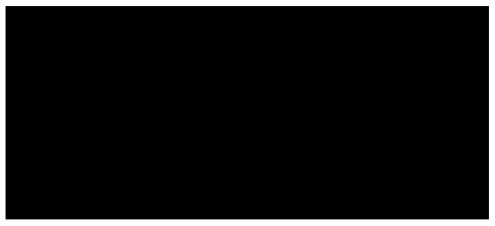
- 1. We have no evidence of additional North Vietnamese troops starting the infiltration trip south since our 16 March report on violations (SC No. 06172/73). We have firm evidence, however, that at least some of the infiltrators already in the pipeline continued to move south as of 18 March. We have no evidence one way or the other on the remainder.
- 2. The flow of North Vietnamese military supplies toward South Vietnam has shown no apparent change since our 16 March report. Our latest date of information on logistics movements is 18 March.
- 3. In South Vietnam as a whole, the number of combat incidents initiated by the Communists in violation of the cease-fire terms decreased somewhat over the past weekend, but Communist forces did increase the level of their activity in the area northwest of Saigon. On 19 March, activity in this area once again died down.
- 4. It is too early to draw meaningful conclusions from the lack of information about changes in Communist activity since the President's warning to Hanoi, because of the time lag inherent in the intelligence collection process. In the absence of any observed change in Communist activity patterns, we need several more days before we can draw even a tentative conclusion that the Communists have not responded to the President's warning.

^{*}This report has been prepared jointly by the Central Intelligence Agency and the Department of Defense.

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